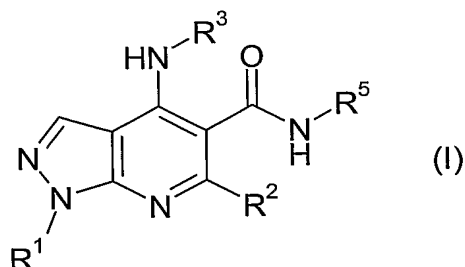


CLAIMS

1. A compound of formula (I) or a salt thereof:

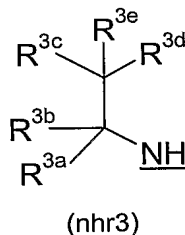


wherein:

10 R^1 is ethyl, n-propyl, isopropyl, C_2 fluoroalkyl, or $-CH_2CH_2OH$;

R^2 is a hydrogen atom (H), methyl, ethyl, n-propyl, isopropyl, C_{1-2} fluoroalkyl, cyclopropyl or (cyclopropyl)methyl-;

15 NHR^3 has the sub-formula (nhr3):



wherein, in sub-formula (nhr3), the $-NH-$ connection point of the NHR^3 group to the bicyclic ring system of formula (I) is underlined, and wherein

20

R^{3a} is methyl or ethyl;

R^{3b} is a hydrogen atom (H), methyl or ethyl,

R^{3c} is a hydrogen atom (H), methyl or ethyl,

R^{3d} is a hydrogen atom (H), methyl or ethyl, and

25

R^{3e} is a hydrogen atom (H) or methyl,

provided that:

(a) R^{3b} is methyl or ethyl; and/or (b) R^{3c} and R^{3d} are independently methyl or ethyl;

30

and provided that:

(c) when R^{3c} is ethyl and/or when R^{3d} is ethyl and/or when R^{3e} is methyl, then: R^{3a} is methyl and/or R^{3b} is a hydrogen atom (H) or methyl;

and wherein:

5

R^5 is C_{3-8} alkyl; C_{3-8} cycloalkyl optionally substituted by a C_{1-2} alkyl group; or $-(CH_2)_{n^4}-C_{3-8}$ cycloalkyl optionally substituted, in the $-(CH_2)_{n^4}-$ moiety or in the C_{3-8} cycloalkyl moiety, by a C_{1-2} alkyl group, wherein n^4 is 1, 2 or 3;

10 or R^5 is C_{2-6} alkyl substituted by one or two independent substituents R^{11} ;

wherein each substituent R^{11} , independently of any other R^{11} substituent present, is: hydroxy (OH); C_{1-6} alkoxy; phenyloxy; benzyloxy; $-NR^{12}R^{13}$; $-NR^{15}-C(O)R^{16}$; $-NR^{15}-C(O)-NH-R^{15}$; or $-NR^{15}-SO_2R^{16}$; and wherein any R^{11} substituent which is

15

OH, alkoxy or $-NR^{12}R^{13}$ is not substituted at the carbon atom, of any R^5 substituted alkyl, which is bonded to the nitrogen of NHR^5 ;

or R^5 is $-(CH_2)_{n^{12}}-SO_2-NR^{12}R^{13}$ or $-(CH_2)_{n^{12}}-SO_2R^{16}$; wherein n^{12} is 2, 3 or 4;

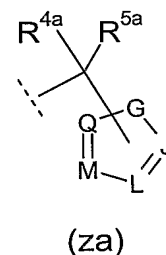
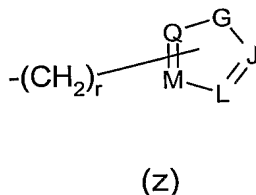
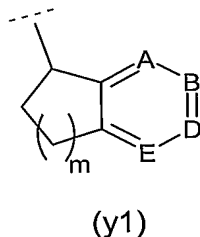
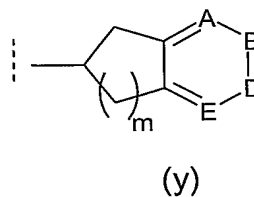
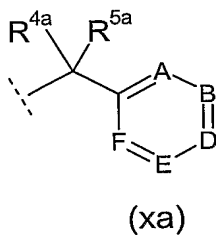
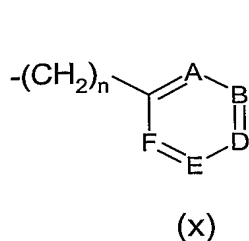
20

or R^5 is $-(CH_2)_{n^{13}}-Het$ wherein n^{13} is 0, 1, 2, 3 or 4 and Het is a 4-, 5-, 6- or 7-membered saturated or partly-saturated heterocyclic ring containing one or two ring-hetero-atoms independently selected from O, S, and N; wherein any ring-hetero-atoms present are not bound to the $-(CH_2)_{n^{13}}-$ moiety when n^{13} is 1 and are not bound to the nitrogen of NHR^5 when n^{13} is 0; wherein any ring-nitrogens which are present and which are not unsaturated (i.e. which do not partake in a double bond) are present as NR^{17} ; and wherein one or two of the carbon ring-atoms independently are optionally substituted by C_{1-2} alkyl;

25

or R^5 has the sub-formula (x), (xa), (y), (y1), (z) or (za):

30



wherein in sub-formula (x), $n = 0, 1$ or 2 ; in sub-formula (y) and (y1), $m = 1$ or 2 ; and in sub-formula (z), $r = 0, 1$ or 2 ;

5

wherein sub-formula (y) and (y1), independently, are optionally substituted by oxo ($=O$) at a ring carbon adjacent the 6-membered aromatic ring;

10 and wherein, in sub-formula (xa) and (za):

R^{4a} is a hydrogen atom (H); methyl, ethyl, n-propyl, isopropyl, C_{1-2} fluoroalkyl, cyclopropyl, $-CH_2OR^{4aa}$, $-CH(Me)OR^{4aa}$, or $-CH_2CH_2OR^{4aa}$, wherein R^{4aa} is a hydrogen atom (H), methyl (Me), or C_1 fluoroalkyl; and

15

R^{5a} is a hydrogen atom (H); C_{1-8} alkyl; C_{1-3} fluoroalkyl; C_{3-8} cycloalkyl optionally substituted by a C_{1-2} alkyl group; or $-(CH_2)_{n^{4a}}-C_{3-8}$ cycloalkyl optionally substituted, in the $-(CH_2)_{n^{4a}}$ moiety or in the C_{3-8} cycloalkyl moiety, by a C_{1-2} alkyl group, wherein n^{4a} is 1 or 2;

20

or R^{5a} is C_{1-4} alkyl substituted by one substituent R^{11a} ; wherein R^{11a} is: hydroxy (OH); C_{1-6} alkoxy; C_{1-2} fluoroalkoxy; phenyloxy; (monofluoro- or difluoro-phenyl)oxy; (monomethyl- or dimethyl-phenyl)oxy; benzyloxy; $-NR^{12}R^{13}$; $-NR^{15}-C(O)R^{16}$; $-NR^{15}-C(O)-NH-R^{15}$; or $-NR^{15}-S(O)_2R^{16}$;

25

or R^{5a} is C_{2-4} alkyl substituted on different carbon atoms by two hydroxy (OH) substituents;

or R^{5a} is -(CH₂)_{n^{11a}}-C(O)R¹⁶; -(CH₂)_{n^{11a}}-C(O)NR¹²R¹³; -CHR^{19a}-C(O)NR¹²R¹³;
 -(CH₂)_{n^{11a}}-C(O)OR¹⁶; -(CH₂)_{n^{11a}}-C(O)OH; -CHR^{19a}-C(O)OR¹⁶;
 -CHR^{19a}-C(O)OH; -(CH₂)_{n^{11a}}-S(O)₂-NR¹²R¹³; -(CH₂)_{n^{11a}}-S(O)₂R¹⁶; or
 5 -(CH₂)_{n^{11a}}-CN; wherein n^{11a} is 0, 1, 2 or 3 (wherein for each R^{5a} group n^{11a} is
 independent of the value of n^{11a} in other R^{5a} groups); and wherein R^{19a} is C₁₋₂alkyl;

or R^{5a} is -(CH₂)_{n^{13a}}-Het^A, wherein n^{13a} is 0, 1 or 2 and Het^A is a 4-, 5-, 6- or
 7-membered saturated or unsaturated heterocyclic ring, other than -NR¹²R¹³, containing
 10 one or two ring-hetero-atoms independently selected from O, S, and N; wherein any
 ring-hetero-atoms present are not bound to the -(CH₂)_{n^{13a}}- moiety when n^{13a} is 0;
 wherein any ring-nitrogens which are present and which are not unsaturated (i.e. which
 do not partake in a double bond) and which are not connecting nitrogens (i.e. which are
 not nitrogens bound to the -(CH₂)_{n^{13a}}- moiety or to the carbon atom to which R^{5a} is
 15 attached) are present as NR^{17a}; and wherein one or two of the carbon ring-atoms are
 independently optionally substituted by C₁₋₂alkyl;

or R^{5a} is phenyl (Ph), -CH₂-Ph, -CHMe-Ph, -CH₂Et-Ph, CMe₂Ph, or -CH₂CH₂-Ph,
 wherein the phenyl ring Ph is optionally substituted with one or two substituents
 20 independently being: a halogen atom; C₁₋₄alkyl; C₁₋₂fluoroalkyl; C₁₋₄alkoxy;
 C₁₋₂fluoroalkoxy; cyclopropyl; cyclopropyloxy; -C(O)-C₁₋₄alkyl; -C(O)OH;
 -C(O)-OC₁₋₄alkyl; C₁₋₄alkyl-S(O)₂-; C₁₋₄alkyl-S(O)₂-NR^{8a}-; R^{7a}R^{8a}N-S(O)₂-;
 R^{7a}R^{8a}N-C(O)-; -NR^{8a}-C(O)-C₁₋₄alkyl; R^{7a}R^{8a}N; OH; nitro (-NO₂); or cyano (-CN);

25 or R^{4a} and R^{5a} taken together are -(CH₂)_{p¹}- or -(CH₂)_{p³}-X⁵-(CH₂)_{p⁴}-, in which: X⁵
 is O or NR^{17a}; p¹ = 2, 3, 4, 5 or 6, and p³ and p⁴ independently are 1, 2 or 3 provided
 that if p³ is 3 then p⁴ is 1 or 2 and if p⁴ is 3 then p³ is 1 or 2;

provided that at least one of R^{4a} and R^{5a} is not a hydrogen atom (H);
 30

and wherein, in sub-formula (x) and in sub-formula (xa):

35 A is C-R^{6A}, nitrogen (N) or nitrogen-oxide (N⁺-O⁻),
 B is C-R^{6B}, nitrogen (N) or nitrogen-oxide (N⁺-O⁻),
 D is C-R^{6D}, nitrogen (N) or nitrogen-oxide (N⁺-O⁻),
 E is C-R^{6E}, nitrogen (N) or nitrogen-oxide (N⁺-O⁻),
 F is C-R^{6F}, nitrogen (N) or nitrogen-oxide (N⁺-O⁻),

wherein, R^{6A}, R^{6B}, R^{6D}, R^{6E} and R^{6F} independently are: a hydrogen atom (H), a halogen atom; C₁₋₆alkyl; C₁₋₄fluoroalkyl; C₃₋₆cycloalkyl; C₁₋₄alkoxy; C₁₋₂fluoroalkoxy; C₃₋₆cycloalkyloxy; -C(O)R^{16a}; -C(O)OR³⁰; -S(O)₂-R^{16a}; R^{16a}-S(O)₂-NR^{15a}; R⁷R⁸N-S(O)₂; C₁₋₂alkyl-C(O)-R^{15a}N-S(O)₂; C₁₋₄alkyl-S(O)-, 5 Ph-S(O)-, R⁷R⁸N-CO-; -NR^{15a}-C(O)R^{16a}; R⁷R⁸N; nitro (-NO₂); OH (including any tautomer thereof); C₁₋₄alkoxymethyl; C₁₋₄alkoxyethyl; C₁₋₂alkyl-S(O)₂-CH₂-; R⁷R⁸N-S(O)₂-CH₂-; C₁₋₂alkyl-S(O)₂-NR^{15a}-CH₂-; -CH₂-OH; -CH₂CH₂-OH; -CH₂-NR⁷R⁸; -CH₂-CH₂-NR⁷R⁸; -CH₂-C(O)OR³⁰; -CH₂-C(O)-NR⁷R⁸; -CH₂-NR^{15a}-C(O)-C₁₋₃alkyl; -(CH₂)_n¹⁴-Het¹ where n¹⁴ is 0 or 1; cyano (-CN); Ar^{5b}; 10 or phenyl, pyridinyl or pyrimidinyl wherein the phenyl, pyridinyl or pyrimidinyl independently are optionally substituted by one or two of fluoro, chloro, C₁₋₂alkyl, C₁fluoroalkyl, C₁₋₂alkoxy or C₁fluoroalkoxy;

and/or two adjacent groups selected from R^{6A}, R^{6B}, R^{6D}, R^{6E} and R^{6F} are taken 15 together and are: -CH=CH-CH=CH₂-, -(CH₂)_n^{14a}- where n^{14a} is 3, 4 or 5, -O-(CMe₂)-O-, -O-(CH₂)_n^{14b}-O- where n^{14b} is 1 or 2; -CH=CH-NR^{15b}-; -N=CH-NR^{15b}-; -CH=N-NR^{15b}-; -N=N-NR^{15b}-; -CH=CH-O-; -N=CH-O-; -CH=CH-S-; or -N=CH-S-; wherein R^{15b} is H or C₁₋₂alkyl;

20 provided that:

at least two of A, B, D, E and F are independently C-H (carbon-hydrogen), C-F (carbon-fluorine), nitrogen (N), or nitrogen-oxide (N⁺-O⁻);

and no more than two of A, B, D, E and F are independently nitrogen or nitrogen-oxide (N⁺-O⁻),

25 and no more than one of A, B, D, E and F is nitrogen-oxide (N⁺-O⁻);

and wherein, in sub-formula (z) and in sub-formula (za):

30 G is O or S or NR⁹ wherein R⁹ is a hydrogen atom (H), C₁₋₄alkyl, or C₁₋₂fluoroalkyl; J is C-R^{6J}, C-[connection point to formula (I)], or nitrogen (N), L is C-R^{6L}, C-[connection point to formula (I)], or nitrogen (N), M is C-R^{6M}, C-[connection point to formula (I)], or nitrogen (N), Q is C-R^{6Q}, C-[connection point to formula (I)], or nitrogen (N),

35 wherein, R^{6J}, R^{6L}, R^{6M} and R^{6Q} independently are: a hydrogen atom (H), a halogen atom; C₁₋₄alkyl; C₁₋₃fluoroalkyl; C₃₋₆cycloalkyl; C₁₋₄alkoxy; C₁₋₂fluoroalkoxy; C₃₋₆cycloalkyloxy; OH (including any tautomer thereof); or phenyl optionally

substituted by one or two substituents independently being fluoro, chloro, C₁₋₂alkyl, C₁fluoroalkyl, C₁₋₂alkoxy or C₁fluoroalkoxy;

provided that:

- 5 at least two of J, L, M and Q are independently C-H, C-F, C-C₁₋₂alkyl, C-[connection point to formula (I)], or nitrogen (N);
and no more than three of J, L, M and Q are nitrogen (N);

10 and wherein:

R⁷ and R⁸ are independently a hydrogen atom (H); C₁₋₄alkyl; C₃₋₆cycloalkyl; or phenyl optionally substituted by one or two substituents independently being: fluoro, chloro, C₁₋₂alkyl, C₁fluoroalkyl, C₁₋₂alkoxy or C₁fluoroalkoxy;

15 or R⁷ and R⁸ together are -(CH₂)_n⁶- or -C(O)-(CH₂)_n⁷- or -C(O)-(CH₂)_n¹⁰-C(O)- or -(CH₂)_n⁸-X⁷-(CH₂)_n⁹- or -C(O)-X⁷-(CH₂)_n¹⁰- in which: n⁶ is 3, 4, 5 or 6, n⁷ is 2, 3, 4, or 5, n⁸ and n⁹ and n¹⁰ independently are 2 or 3, and X⁷ is O or NR¹⁴;

20 R^{7a} is a hydrogen atom (H) or C₁₋₄alkyl;

R^{8a} is a hydrogen atom (H) or methyl;

25 R¹² and R¹³ (independent of any other R¹² or R¹³) independently are H; C₁₋₄alkyl; C₃₋₆cycloalkyl; or phenyl optionally substituted by one or two substituents independently being: fluoro, chloro, C₁₋₂alkyl, C₁fluoroalkyl, C₁₋₂alkoxy or C₁fluoroalkoxy;

30 or R¹² and R¹³ (independent of any other R¹² or R¹³) together are -(CH₂)_n^{6a}- or -C(O)-(CH₂)_n^{7a}- or -C(O)-(CH₂)_n^{10a}-C(O)- or -(CH₂)_n^{8a}-X¹²-(CH₂)_n^{9a}- or -C(O)-X¹²-(CH₂)_n^{10a}- in which: n^{6a} is 3, 4, 5 or 6, n^{7a} is 2, 3, 4, or 5, n^{8a} and n^{9a} and n^{10a} independently are 2 or 3 and X¹² is O or NR^{14a};

35 R¹⁴, R^{14a} and R^{17a} (independent of any other R¹⁴, R^{14a} or R^{17a}) independently are: a hydrogen atom (H); C₁₋₄alkyl; C₁₋₂fluoroalkyl; cyclopropyl; -C(O)-C₁₋₄alkyl; -C(O)NR^{7a}R^{8a}; or -S(O)₂-C₁₋₄alkyl;

R¹⁵, independent of any other R¹⁵, is a hydrogen atom (H); C₁₋₄alkyl; C₃₋₆cycloalkyl; or phenyl optionally substituted by one or two substituents independently being: a halogen atom, C₁₋₂alkyl, C₁fluoroalkyl, C₁₋₂alkoxy or C₁fluoroalkoxy;

R^{15a}, independent of any other R^{15a}, is a hydrogen atom (H) or C₁₋₄alkyl;

R¹⁶, independent of any other R¹⁶, is: C₁₋₄alkyl; C₃₋₆cycloalkyl;
C₃₋₆cycloalkyl-CH₂-; or phenyl or benzyl, wherein the phenyl and benzyl are
5 independently optionally substituted on their ring by one or two substituents
independently being fluoro, chloro, methyl, C₁fluoroalkyl, methoxy or C₁fluoroalkoxy;

R^{16a}, independent of any other R^{16a}, is:

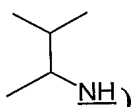
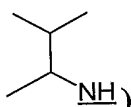
- 10 C₁₋₆alkyl;
C₃₋₆cycloalkyl optionally substituted by one oxo (=O), OH or C₁₋₂alkyl
substituent;
C₃₋₆cycloalkyl-CH₂-;
pyridinyl optionally substituted on a ring carbon atom by one of: a halogen atom,
C₁₋₂alkyl, C₁fluoroalkyl, C₁₋₂alkoxy or C₁fluoroalkoxy;
15 Ar^{5c};
phenyl optionally substituted by one or two substituents independently being: a
halogen atom, C₁₋₂alkyl, C₁fluoroalkyl, C₁₋₂alkoxy or C₁fluoroalkoxy;
benzyl optionally substituted on its ring by one or two substituents independently
being: a halogen atom, C₁₋₂alkyl, C₁fluoroalkyl, C₁₋₂alkoxy or C₁fluoroalkoxy; or
20 a 4-, 5-, 6- or 7-membered saturated heterocyclic ring connected at a ring-carbon
and containing one or two ring-hetero-atoms independently selected from O, S, and N;
wherein any ring-nitrogens which are present are present as NR²⁷ where R²⁷ is H,
C₁₋₂alkyl or -C(O)Me; and wherein the ring is optionally substituted at carbon by one
C₁₋₂alkyl or oxo (=O) substituent, provided that any oxo (=O) substituent is substituted
25 at a ring-carbon atom bonded to a ring-nitrogen;

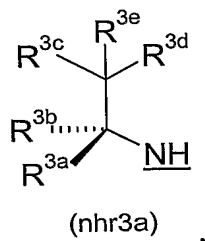
R¹⁷, independent of any other R¹⁷, is a hydrogen atom (H); C₁₋₄alkyl; C₁₋₂fluoroalkyl;
C₃₋₆cycloalkyl; -(CH₂)_p⁶-C(O)R¹⁶ wherein p⁶ is 0, 1, 2 or 3; -(CH₂)_p⁶-C(O)NR¹²R¹³;
-(CH₂)_p⁶-C(O)OR¹⁶; -(CH₂)_p⁶-C(O)OH; -SO₂R¹⁶; -C(O)-CH₂-NR¹²R¹³;
30 -C(O)-CH₂-NR^{15a}-C(O)-C₁₋₃alkyl; -C(O)-CH₂-O-C₁₋₃alkyl; or phenyl or benzyl
wherein the phenyl or benzyl is optionally substituted on their ring by one or two
substituents independently being: a halogen atom, C₁₋₂alkyl, C₁fluoroalkyl, C₁₋₂alkoxy
or C₁fluoroalkoxy;

35 R³⁰, independent of any other R³⁰, is a hydrogen atom (H), C₁₋₄alkyl or
C₃₋₆cycloalkyl;

Ar^{5b} and Ar^{5c} independently is/are a 5-membered aromatic heterocyclic ring containing
one O, S or NR^{15a} in the 5-membered ring, wherein the 5-membered ring can optionally
40 additionally contain one or two N atoms, and wherein the heterocyclic ring is optionally

substituted on a ring carbon atom by one of: a halogen atom, C₁₋₂alkyl, C₁fluoroalkyl, -CH₂OH, -CH₂-OC₁₋₂alkyl, OH (including the keto tautomer thereof) or -CH₂-NR²⁸R²⁹ wherein R²⁸ and R²⁹ independently are H or methyl; and

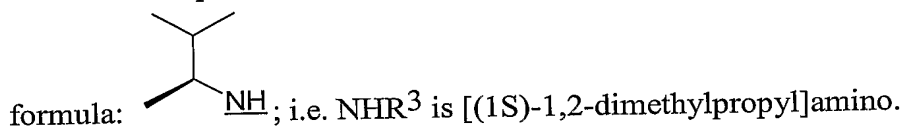
- 5 Het¹, independent of any other Het¹, is a 4-, 5-, 6- or 7-membered saturated heterocyclic ring connected at a ring-carbon and containing one or two ring-hetero-atoms independently selected from O, S, and N; wherein any ring-nitrogens which are present are present as NR³¹ where R³¹ is H, C₁₋₂alkyl or -C(O)Me; and wherein the ring is optionally substituted at carbon by one C₁₋₂alkyl or oxo (=O) substituent, provided that
 10 any oxo (=O) substituent is substituted at a ring-carbon atom bonded to a ring-nitrogen.
2. A compound or salt as claimed in claim 1, wherein R¹ is ethyl or C₂fluoroalkyl.
- 15 3. A compound or salt as claimed in claim 1, wherein R¹ is ethyl.
4. A compound or salt as claimed in claim 1, 2 or 3, wherein R² is a hydrogen atom (H) or methyl.
- 20 5. A compound or salt as claimed in claim 1, 2, 3 or 4, wherein R^{3a} is methyl, R^{3b} is a hydrogen atom (H) or methyl, and R^{3e} is a hydrogen atom (H).
6. A compound or salt as claimed in claim 1, 2, 3 or 4, wherein R^{3b} is methyl or ethyl, R^{3c} and R^{3d} independently are a hydrogen atom (H) or methyl, and R^{3e} is a
 25 hydrogen atom (H).
7. A compound or salt as claimed in claim 6, wherein R³ is t-butyl.
8. A compound or salt as claimed in claim 1, 2, 3, 4 or 5, wherein R^{3c} and R^{3d} are
 30 independently methyl or ethyl, R^{3a} is methyl, and R^{3b} is a hydrogen atom (H) or methyl.
9. A compound or salt as claimed in claim 8, wherein R³ is 1,2-dimethyl-propyl

 (that is, NHR³ is (1,2-dimethylpropyl)amino which is ).
 35 10. A compound or salt as claimed in claim 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 8 or 9, wherein R^{3c} and R^{3d} are independently methyl or ethyl, R^{3b} is a hydrogen atom (H) and NHR³ has the sub-formula (nhr3a):



wherein sub-formula (nhr3a) means that more than 50% of the compound or salt present has the stereochemistry shown at the carbon atom bearing the R^{3a} and R^{3b} groups.

5

11. A compound or salt as claimed in claim 10, wherein NHR^3 has the following sub-



10

12. A compound or salt as claimed in any preceding claim, wherein R^5 is C_{3-8} alkyl; C_{5-6} cycloalkyl; (C_{5-6} cycloalkyl)methyl-; $-(CH_2)_n^5-R^{11}$ wherein n^5 is 2 or 3 and R^{11} is $-NR^{15}-SO_2R^{16}$; or R^5 has the sub-formula (x), (xa), (y), (y1), (z) or (za).

15

13. A compound or salt as claimed in claim 12, wherein R^5 has the sub-formula (x), (xa), (y), (y1), (z) or (za).

14. A compound or salt as claimed in claim 13, wherein R^5 has the sub-formula (x), (xa), (y), or (z).

20

15. A compound or salt as claimed in claim 14, wherein R^5 has the sub-formula (x) or (xa).

16. A compound or salt as claimed in any preceding claim, wherein $n = 1$, $m = 1$ and $r = 1$.

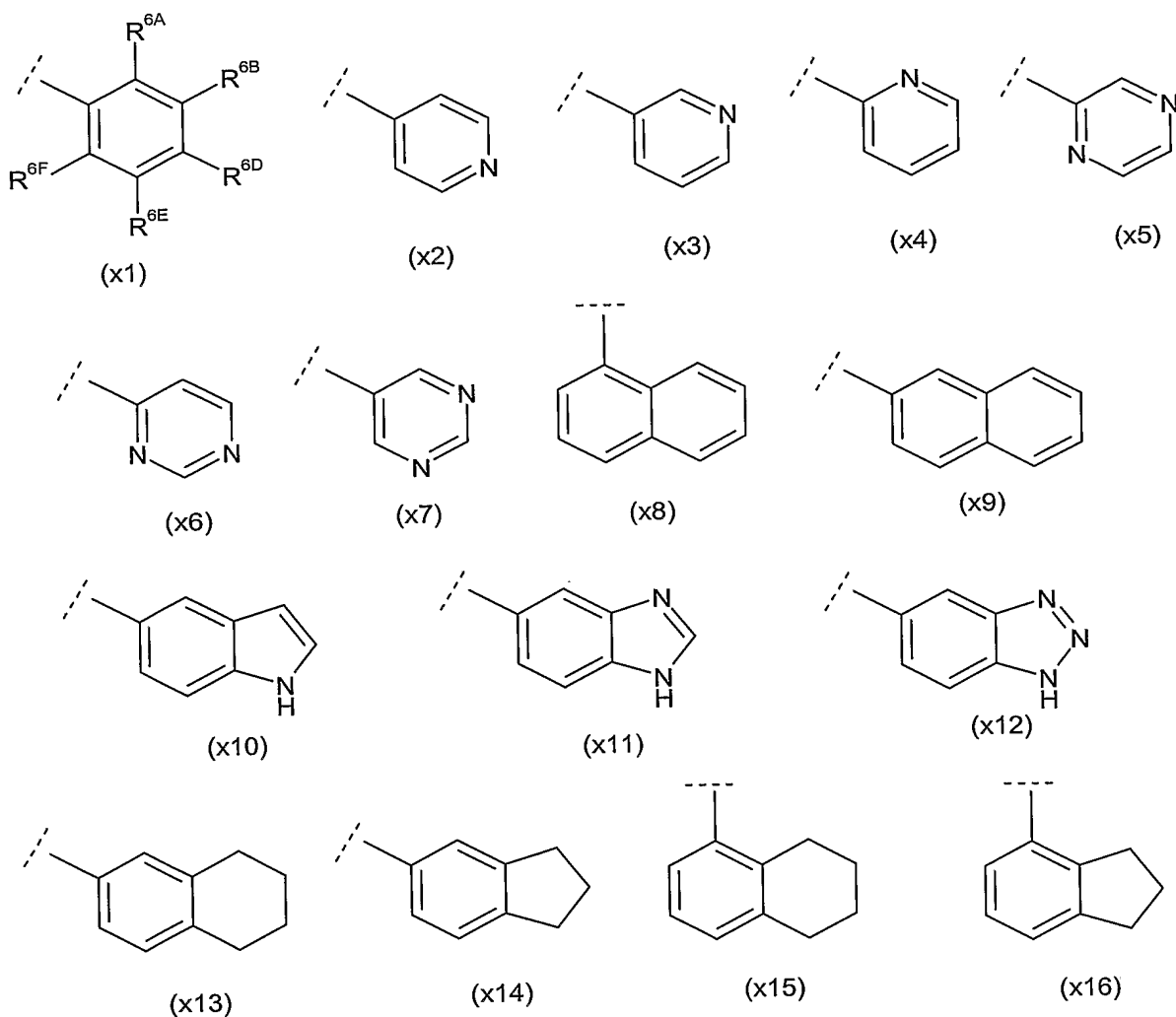
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17. A compound or salt as claimed in claim 15, or claim 16 as dependent on claim 15, wherein:

R^5 has the sub-formula (x) which is $-(CH_2)_n-Ar^X$, or has the sub-formula (xa) which is $-(CR^{4a}R^{5a})-Ar^X$,

30

and Ar^X has the sub-formula (x1), (x2), (x3), (x4), (x5), (x6), (x7), (x8), (x9), (x10), (x11), (x12), (x13), (x14), (x15) or (x16):



18. A compound or salt as claimed in claim 17, wherein Ar^X has the sub-formula (x1).

5

19. A compound or salt as claimed in any preceding claim, wherein, in sub-formula (x) and in sub-formula (xa), preferably, R^{6A}, R^{6B}, R^{6D}, R^{6E} and R^{6F}, independently of each other, are: is a hydrogen atom (H), a fluorine, chlorine, bromine or iodine atom, methyl, ethyl, n-propyl, isopropyl, isobutyl, trifluoromethyl, -CH₂OH, methoxy, ethoxy, n-propoxy, isopropoxy, C₁ fluoroalkoxy, nitro (-NO₂), OH, C₁₋₃alkylS(O)₂-, C₁₋₂alkylS(O)₂-NH-, -CONH₂, cyano (-CN), or C₁₋₂alkylS(O)₂-CH₂-.

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20. A compound or salt as claimed in claim 19, wherein R^{6A}, R^{6B}, R^{6D}, R^{6E} and R^{6F}, independently of each other, are: a hydrogen atom (H), a fluorine, chlorine or bromine atom, methyl, ethyl, n-propyl, isopropyl, trifluoromethyl, -CH₂OH, methoxy, ethoxy, n-propoxy, difluoromethoxy, nitro (-NO₂), OH, MeS(O)₂-, Me-S(O)₂-NH- or Me-S(O)₂-CH₂-.

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21. A compound or salt as claimed in any preceding claim, wherein R⁵ has the sub-formula (x) and is: benzyl, (monoalkyl-phenyl)methyl, [mono(fluoroalkyl)-phenyl]methyl, (monohalo-phenyl)methyl, (monoalkoxy-phenyl)methyl, [mono(fluoroalkoxy)-phenyl]methyl, [mono(N,N-dimethylamino)-phenyl]methyl, [mono(methyl-SO₂-NH-)-phenyl]methyl, [mono(methyl-SO₂-)-phenyl]methyl, (dialkyl-phenyl)methyl, (monoalkyl-monohalo-phenyl)methyl, [mono(fluoroalkyl)-monohalo-phenyl]methyl, (dihalo-phenyl)methyl, (dihalo-monoalkyl-phenyl)methyl, [dihalo-mono(hydroxymethyl)-phenyl]methyl, or (dialkoxy-phenyl)methyl.
22. A compound or salt as claimed in claim 22, wherein R⁵ is of sub-formula (x) and is:
 (monoC₁₋₄alkyl-phenyl)methyl;
 (monoC₁fluoroalkyl-phenyl)methyl;
 (monoC₁₋₃alkoxy-phenyl)methyl;
 [mono(C₁fluoroalkoxy)-phenyl]methyl;
 (diC₁₋₂alkyl-phenyl)methyl;
 (monoC₁₋₄alkyl-monohalo-phenyl)methyl;
 (dihalo-phenyl)methyl;
 (dihalo-monoC₁₋₂alkyl-phenyl)methyl; or
 [dihalo-mono(hydroxymethyl)-phenyl]methyl.
23. A compound or salt as claimed in claim 1, which is:
 N-Benzyl-4- {[(1R)-1,2-dimethylpropyl]amino }-1-ethyl-1H-pyrazolo[3,4-b]pyridine-5-carboxamide,
 4- {[(1R)-1,2-Dimethylpropyl]amino }-1-ethyl-N-(4-fluorophenyl)-1H-pyrazolo[3,4-b]pyridine-5-carboxamide,
 4- {[(1R)-1,2-Dimethylpropyl]amino }-1-ethyl-N-[4-(trifluoromethyl)benzyl]-1H-pyrazolo[3,4-b]pyridine-5-carboxamide,
 N-(2,3-Dihydro-1H-inden-2-yl)-4- {[(1R)-1,2-dimethylpropyl]amino }-1-ethyl-1H-pyrazolo[3,4-b]pyridine-5-carboxamide,
 4- {[(1R)-1,2-Dimethylpropyl]amino }-1-ethyl-N-[4-(methylsulfonyl)benzyl]-1H-pyrazolo[3,4-b]pyridine-5-carboxamide,
 N-[4-(Difluoromethoxy)benzyl]-4- {[(1S)-1,2-dimethylpropyl]amino }-1-ethyl-1H-pyrazolo[3,4-b]pyridine-5-carboxamide,
 4- {[(1S)-1,2-Dimethylpropyl]amino }-1-ethyl-N-[(2-methyl-1,3-thiazol-4-yl)methyl]-1H-pyrazolo[3,4-b]pyridine-5-carboxamide,
 N-[(5-Chloropyridin-2-yl)methyl]-4- {[(1S)-1,2-dimethylpropyl]amino }-1-ethyl-1H-pyrazolo[3,4-b]pyridine-5-carboxamide,

- N-(2-Chloro-6-fluorobenzyl)-4-{{(1S)-1,2-dimethylpropyl}amino}-1-ethyl-1H-pyrazolo[3,4-b]pyridine-5-carboxamide,
4-{{(1S)-1,2-Dimethylpropyl}amino}-1-ethyl-N-{1-[4-(methylsulfonyl)phenyl]ethyl}-1H-pyrazolo[3,4-b]pyridine-5-carboxamide,
5 4-{{(1S)-1,2-Dimethylpropyl}amino}-1-ethyl-N-[(6-methoxypyridin-3-yl)methyl]-1H-pyrazolo[3,4-b]pyridine-5-carboxamide,
4-{{(1S)-1,2-Dimethylpropyl}amino}-1-ethyl-N-{3-[(methylamino)carbonyl]benzyl}-1H-pyrazolo[3,4-b]pyridine-5-carboxamide,
4-{{(1S)-1,2-Dimethylpropyl}amino}-1-ethyl-N-[(1R)-1-phenylpropyl]-1H-pyrazolo[3,4-b]pyridine-5-carboxamide,
10 4-{{(1S)-1,2-Dimethylpropyl}amino}-N-(2,2-diphenylethyl)-1-ethyl-1H-pyrazolo[3,4-b]pyridine-5-carboxamide,
N-[2-(Dimethylamino)benzyl]-4-{{(1S)-1,2-dimethylpropyl}amino}-1-ethyl-1H-pyrazolo[3,4-b]pyridine-5-carboxamide,
15 4-{{(1S)-1,2-Dimethylpropyl}amino}-1-ethyl-N-(4-fluorobenzyl)-1H-pyrazolo[3,4-b]pyridine-5-carboxamide,
4-{{(1S)-1,2-Dimethylpropyl}amino}-N-(diphenylmethyl)-1-ethyl-1H-pyrazolo[3,4-b]pyridine-5-carboxamide,
4-{{(1S)-1,2-Dimethylpropyl}amino}-1-ethyl-N-{4-[(methylamino)carbonyl]benzyl}-1H-pyrazolo[3,4-b]pyridine-5-carboxamide,
20 Methyl 4-({[(4-{{(1S)-1,2-dimethylpropyl}amino}-1-ethyl-1H-pyrazolo[3,4-b]pyridin-5-yl)carbonyl]amino}methyl)benzoate,
4-{{(1S)-1,2-Dimethylpropyl}amino}-1-ethyl-N-(4-methoxyphenyl)-1H-pyrazolo[3,4-b]pyridine-5-carboxamide,
25 4-{{(1S)-1,2-Dimethylpropyl}amino}-1-ethyl-N-(4-hydroxybenzyl)-1H-pyrazolo[3,4-b]pyridine-5-carboxamide,
4-{{(1S)-1,2-Dimethylpropyl}amino}-1-ethyl-N-[3-(trifluoromethyl)benzyl]-1H-pyrazolo[3,4-b]pyridine-5-carboxamide,
4-{{(1S)-1,2-Dimethylpropyl}amino}-1-ethyl-N-(4-methoxybenzyl)-1H-pyrazolo[3,4-b]pyridine-5-carboxamide,
30 N-(3,4-Difluorobenzyl)-4-{{(1S)-1,2-dimethylpropyl}amino}-1-ethyl-1H-pyrazolo[3,4-b]pyridine-5-carboxamide,
N-(2,6-Difluorobenzyl)-4-{{(1S)-1,2-dimethylpropyl}amino}-1-ethyl-1H-pyrazolo[3,4-b]pyridine-5-carboxamide,
35 4-{{(1S)-1,2-Dimethylpropyl}amino}-1-ethyl-N-[(1R)-1-phenylethyl]-1H-pyrazolo[3,4-b]pyridine-5-carboxamide,
N-(2,5-Difluorobenzyl)-4-{{(1S)-1,2-dimethylpropyl}amino}-1-ethyl-1H-pyrazolo[3,4-b]pyridine-5-carboxamide,
4-{{(1S)-1,2-Dimethylpropyl}amino}-1-ethyl-N-(3-fluorobenzyl)-1H-pyrazolo[3,4-b]pyridine-5-carboxamide,
40 4-{{(1S)-1,2-Dimethylpropyl}amino}-1-ethyl-N-[2-(trifluoromethyl)benzyl]-1H-pyrazolo[3,4-b]pyridine-5-carboxamide,

- N-(5-Chloro-2,3-dihydro-1H-inden-2-yl)-4- {[(1S)-1,2-dimethylpropyl]amino }-1-ethyl-1H-pyrazolo[3,4-b]pyridine-5-carboxamide,
Methyl 3-([(4- {[(1S)-1,2-dimethylpropyl]amino }-1-ethyl-1H-pyrazolo[3,4-b]pyridin-5-yl)carbonyl]amino)methylbenzoate,
5 N-[2-(Aminocarbonyl)benzyl]-4- {[(1S)-1,2-dimethylpropyl]amino }-1-ethyl-1H-pyrazolo[3,4-b]pyridine-5-carboxamide,
4- {[(1S)-1,2-Dimethylpropyl]amino }-1-ethyl-N- {4-[(methylsulfonyl)amino]benzyl}-1H-pyrazolo[3,4-b]pyridine-5-carboxamide,
4- {[(1S)-1,2-Dimethylpropyl]amino }-1-ethyl-N- {3-[(methylsulfonyl)amino]benzyl}-1H-
10 pyrazolo[3,4-b]pyridine-5-carboxamide,
4- {[(1S)-1,2-Dimethylpropyl]amino }-1-ethyl-N-[4-(trifluoromethyl)benzyl]-1H-pyrazolo[3,4-b]pyridine-5-carboxamide,
N-(2,3-Dihydro-1H-inden-2-yl)-4- {[(1S)-1,2-dimethylpropyl]amino }-1-ethyl-1H-pyrazolo[3,4-b]pyridine-5-carboxamide,
15 4- {[(1S)-1,2-Dimethylpropyl]amino }-1-ethyl-N-[4-(methylsulfonyl)benzyl]-1H-pyrazolo[3,4-b]pyridine-5-carboxamide,
N-Benzyl-4- {[(1S)-1,2-dimethylpropyl]amino }-1-ethyl-1H-pyrazolo[3,4-b]pyridine-5-carboxamide,
4- {[(1S)-1,2-Dimethylpropyl]amino }-1-ethyl-N-(4-fluorophenyl)-1H-pyrazolo[3,4-
20 b]pyridine-5-carboxamide,
N-[2-(Aminosulfonyl)ethyl]-4- {[(1S)-1,2-dimethylpropyl]amino }-1-ethyl-1H-pyrazolo[3,4-b]pyridine-5-carboxamide,
4- {[(1S)-1,2-Dimethylpropyl]amino }-1-ethyl-N-[(6-oxo-1,6-dihydropyridin-3-yl)methyl]-1H-pyrazolo[3,4-b]pyridine-5-carboxamide,
25 4- {[(1S)-1,2-Dimethylpropyl]amino }-1-ethyl-N- {2-[(methylsulfonyl)amino]ethyl}-1H-pyrazolo[3,4-b]pyridine-5-carboxamide,
4- {[(1S)-1,2-Dimethylpropyl]amino }-1-ethyl-N-(tetrahydro-2H-pyran-4-yl)-1H-pyrazolo[3,4-b]pyridine-5-carboxamide,
4- {[(1S)-1,2-Dimethylpropyl]amino }-1-ethyl-N-[(1-methyl-1H-pyrazol-4-yl)methyl]-1H-
30 pyrazolo[3,4-b]pyridine-5-carboxamide,
4- {[(1S)-1,2-Dimethylpropyl]amino }-1-ethyl-N-[3-(methylsulfonyl)benzyl]-1H-pyrazolo[3,4-b]pyridine-5-carboxamide,
4- {[(1S)-1,2-Dimethylpropyl]amino }-1-ethyl-N-(pyridin-3-ylmethyl)-1H-pyrazolo[3,4-b]pyridine-5-carboxamide,
35 N-[3-(Aminocarbonyl)benzyl]-4- {[(1S)-1,2-dimethylpropyl]amino }-1-ethyl-1H-pyrazolo[3,4-b]pyridine-5-carboxamide,
4- {[(1S)-1,2-Dimethylpropyl]amino }-1-ethyl-N-(tetrahydrofuran-2-ylmethyl)-1H-pyrazolo[3,4-b]pyridine-5-carboxamide,
N- {4-[(Dimethylamino)sulfonyl]benzyl}-4- {[(1S)-1,2-dimethylpropyl]amino }-1-ethyl-
40 1H-pyrazolo[3,4-b]pyridine-5-carboxamide,
4- {[(1S)-1,2-Dimethylpropyl]amino }-1-ethyl-N-(2-ethylbutyl)-1H-pyrazolo[3,4-b]pyridine-5-carboxamide,
4-(tert-Butylamino)-1-ethyl-N-benzyl-1H-pyrazolo[3,4-b]pyridine-5-carboxamide,

4-(tert-Butylamino)-1-ethyl-N-(4-fluorophenyl)-1H-pyrazolo[3,4-b]pyridine-5-carboxamide,
4-(tert-Butylamino)-1-ethyl-N-[4-(trifluoromethyl)benzyl]-1H-pyrazolo[3,4-b]pyridine-5-carboxamide,
5 4-(tert-Butylamino)-N-(2,3-dihydro-1H-inden-2-yl)-1-ethyl-1H-pyrazolo[3,4-b]pyridine-5-carboxamide, or
4-(tert-Butylamino)-1-ethyl-N-[4-(methylsulfonyl)benzyl]-1H-pyrazolo[3,4-b]pyridine-5-carboxamide;

10 **or** a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof.

24. A pharmaceutical composition comprising a compound of formula (I) or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof, as defined in any of claims 1 to 23, and one or more pharmaceutically acceptable carriers and/or excipients.

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25. A compound of formula (I) or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof, as defined in any of claims 1 to 23, for use as an active therapeutic substance in a mammal.

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26. The use of a compound of formula (I) or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof, as defined in any of claims 1 to 23, in the manufacture of a medicament for the treatment and/or prophylaxis of an inflammatory and/or allergic disease in a mammal.

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27. The use as claimed in claim 26, wherein the inflammatory and/or allergic disease is chronic obstructive pulmonary disease (COPD), asthma, rheumatoid arthritis or allergic rhinitis in a human.

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28. The use of a compound of formula (I) or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof, as defined in any of claims 1 to 23, in the manufacture of a medicament for the treatment and/or prophylaxis of asthma, chronic obstructive pulmonary disease (COPD), atopic dermatitis, urticaria, allergic rhinitis, allergic conjunctivitis, vernal conjunctivitis, eosinophilic granuloma, psoriasis, rheumatoid arthritis, septic shock, ulcerative colitis, Crohn's disease, reperfusion injury of the myocardium and brain, chronic glomerulonephritis, endotoxic shock, adult respiratory distress syndrome, multiple sclerosis, cognitive impairment in a neurological disorder, depression, or pain, in a mammal.

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29. A method of treatment and/or prophylaxis of an inflammatory and/or allergic disease in a human in need thereof, which method comprises administering to the human a therapeutically effective amount of a compound of formula (I) or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof as defined in any of claims 1 to 23.